



*Building for Missoula's Future*

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It is time to fix all of our schools - to invest in our kids, Missoula and our future. It is the responsible thing to do.

### **Smart school facilities support 21st Century Educational Culture in three ways:**

- **Maintenance:** Addressing key deferred maintenance with a strategic long-term plan.
- **Technology:** They allow for rapidly evolving technology to be implemented into education well into the future.
- **Agility:** They feature dynamic layouts that are open and flexible, enabling multiuse, class-to-class collaboration and evolution of curriculum over time.

### **Smart schools come from intelligent, collaborative decision-making:**

- **Our process** has elicited input from every MCPS school - involving strategic teams including parents, teachers, students, administrators and interested citizens.
- **Design options** were determined based on each school's need and the needs of the school system as a whole.
- **Leading the process** is a local firm with considerable national experience developing schools in line with 21st century education principals.

### **Smart school facilities are integral to communitywide scholastic and economic achievement:**

- **An investment** in our schools is a foundational investment in the success and wealth of Missoula as a whole.
- **Missoula** has the top-performing schools in the state in terms of graduation, achievement and dropout rates; we need to continue that trend.
- **Communities** that value education hold the lead in economic development, business startups and salaries.

### **Now is the time to invest in building smarter schools:**

- **Cost-effectiveness:** Our school physical infrastructure is aging rapidly. The sooner we begin renovations and updates, the more cost-effective we will be in building expense and long-term maintenance.
- **Community Growth:** Population shifts have put stress on certain schools and eased population on others.
- **International Competition:** Our students aren't just competing with other Montana communities for scholarships and jobs, but with students from around the world too.
- **Fast Progress:** By 2020 we need to be implementing the plan on the ground, targeting first the highest-need facilities and most important updates.
- **Bonding:** Operational costs such as teacher salaries are covered by state funding, but facilities' costs can only be paid through community bonds.



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